

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus for reproducing digital video information, the apparatus comprising:
 - a readout unit configured to read out, from a recording medium, compressed video and audio data compliant with MPEG format having a structure of sequential video information blocks in a predetermined number of frames;
 - a separation unit configured to separate video data and audio data from the compressed video and audio data read out by the readout unit;
 - an expansion unit configured to respectively expand the video data and the audio data separated by the separation unit;
 - a video output unit configured to output the video data expanded by the expansion unit;
 - an audio output unit configured to output the audio data expanded by the expansion unit;
 - an operation unit including a high speed reproduction key for reproducing the compressed video and audio data in n-fold (where $n \geq 3$) speed; and
 - a control unit configured to control the expansion unit, ~~when the high speed reproduction key is operated~~ during the n-fold speed reproduction of the compressed video and audio data, to alternatively and continuously reproduce the compressed video and audio data for a number a plurality of frames corresponding to the n-fold speed, alternating with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in and a plurality of frames corresponding to one of a normal speed and a two-fold speed for a predetermined number of frames, when the high speed reproduction key is operated.
2. (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a setting unit configured to variably set the ~~predetermined~~ number of the frames corresponding to perform the reproduction in the one of the normal speed and the two-fold speed, which are to be reproduced between two frames corresponding to the n-fold speed during in the high n- fold speed reproduction.

3. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the setting unit comprises a setting key arranged in the operation unit.
4. (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a selection unit configured to alternatively select ~~to reproduce in the~~ one of the normal speed and the two-fold speed for the predetermined number of to which the frames to be reproduced during the n-fold speed reproduction correspond in the high speed reproduction.
5. (Original) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selection unit comprises a setting key arranged in the operation unit.
6. (Currently Amended) A reproducing method for reproducing digital video information, the method comprising:
 - reading out from a recording medium compressed video and audio data compliant with MPEG format having a structure of sequential video information blocks in a predetermined number of frames;
 - separating video data and audio data from the compressed video and audio data read out;
 - expanding the separated video data and the separated audio data;
 - outputting the expanded video data and the expanded audio data;
 - controlling the expanding, ~~when a high speed reproduction for reproducing during the n-fold~~ (where $n \geq 3$) speed reproduction of the compressed video and audio data is selected, to alternatively and continuously reproduce the compressed video and audio data for a number a plurality of frames corresponding to the n-fold speed, ~~alternating with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in~~ and a plurality of frames corresponding to one of a normal speed and a two-fold speed ~~for a predetermined number of frames.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The reproducing method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising variably setting the number of the frames corresponding to perform the reproduction in the one of the normal speed and the two-fold speed, which are to be reproduced between two frames corresponding to the n-fold speed during in the high n-fold speed reproduction.
8. (Currently Amended) The reproducing method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising alternatively selecting ~~to reproduce in the~~ one of the normal speed and the two-fold speed for the predetermined number of to which the frames to be reproduced during the n-fold speed reproduction correspond in the high speed reproduction.
9. (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the compressed video and audio data is reproduced for a number of frames corresponding to the n-fold speed and alternated with reproducing the compressed video and audio data in the frames corresponding to the one of the normal speed and the two-fold speed for a predetermined number of frames~~ are alternatively and continuously reproduced until high n-fold speed reproduction is interrupted.
10. (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the ~~predetermined~~ number of the frames is set arbitrarily.
11. (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the ~~predetermined~~ number of the frames is set by operating the setting key.